OCIL 21426 " The Iron Mule " /

A Phoyoplay in 2 reels.

Directed by Grever Jones.

Author of Photoplay Reel Comedies Inc U S A

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FROM DEPARTMENT OF ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY, EDUCATIONAL FILM EXCHANGES INC., 370 SEVENTH AVE., NEW YORK CITY

4/17/25



OCIL 21426

THE IRON MULE

Educational-Tuxedo Comedy

Produced by Reel Comedies, Inc. Directed by Grover Jones.

## SYNOPSIS

Back in the days of 1830 the first railroad was writing transportation history. So successful was the line between Likskillet and Sassafrass that passengers could embark an Christmas day and enjoy the Fourth of July celebration at the end of the line. The natives called the engine "The Iron Mule", partly because it had been raised from a donkey engine, but mostly because it was so stubborn.

Al is engineer, brakeman and candyman on the train. The conductor is so honest that he turns in all collections to the company. The passengers are brave pioneers. They have to be game to try anything once, for the ride on the train is not the least of the dangers of the age.

The train leaves Likskillet on time, which means when it has a full load, and sets out on its journey through the danger-haunted wilds of those days . Tearing through the country-side at the zipping rate of eight miles per hour (some hours) the passengers hold on for dear life and marvell at the ingenuity of modern man.

Part of the engine-driver's equipment is a whip with which he chastizes sleepy cattle which mistake the toad-bed for a resting place. Between

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stops he pops corn over the glowing furnace fire and hawks it among the passengers. Railroading was only in its equally days---but the conductor made Al Split fifty-fifty on his sales.

At a backwoods station, a woodsman boards the train with his horse in tow. But the horse is stubborn and fefuses to follow the train-and the engine wheels spin merrily, getting nowhere, until the rope parts and the train runs away. The passengers have to run to catch it.

The raging river seemingly bars the way of the intrepid travellers, but the ingenuaty of the pioneer has solved that difficulty. Huge logs are labbled to the sides of the train and with Al at the oars, the engine and coaches are ferraed across the torrent.

The Indian, scourge of the forest, ever-present menace to the whites, is not content to see his domain invaded by a smoking, screeching monster and he plans to wreck the train. Logs are placed across the tracks and when the engine strikes the obstruction, the redskins swoop to the massacre with whoops of fiendish glee, already counting the scalps of the passengers. But they have not recknown on the stuff of which our pioneer fathers and mothers were made, for the frontier woman is as deadly as the male and she knocks off the redskins at forty rods with as much ease as does her husband.

The redskins vanquished, the Iron Mule proceeds on its way to Sassafrass and into history.

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